

NEWS RELEASE

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Federal Government Revises Small Business Contracting Numbers Upward

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today that the federal government was making a \$3 billion upward revision to the total number of prime contract dollars awarded to small businesses in the 2003 fiscal year. The new total of \$65.5 billion represents a 23 percent jump over fiscal year 2002 and sets a new record for small business prime contracting.

The revised number also confirms that the federal government exceeded its own statutory requirements for small business contracting in 2003. The \$65.5 billion that was awarded to small businesses in 2003 represents 23.6 percent of the total number of prime contract dollars awarded by the federal government.

"The prime contracting totals that the federal government is announcing today represent a victory for America's small business owners," SBA Government Contracting Senior Adviser Emily Murphy said. "Not only did the government meet its own stringent statutory goals, but it broke records by awarding more contracting dollars to America's small businesses than ever before. President Bush has made a commitment to America's small business owners, and this record \$65.5 billion sends a message that he is keeping that commitment."

For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses, visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

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